CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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LETTER DATED 9 JUNE 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF EGYPT ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING THE RELEVANT PART OF THE FINAL DOCUMENT ON DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY OF THE ELEVENTH MINISTERIAL MEETING OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT WHICH TOOK PLACE IN CAIRO, EGYPT (31 MAY TO 3 JUNE 1994)

I have the honour to inform you that the Eleventh Ministerial Meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement took place in Cairo, Egypt from 31 May to 3 June 1994.

The meeting discussed issues related to disarmament and international security, and a final document was issued which addresses, inter alia, various questions that have a direct bearing on the work of the Conference on Disarmament.

I have enclosed herewith a copy in English of Part 5 of the final document which deals with "Disarmament and International Security".

I would kindly request that the enclosed document be issued as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament.

(Signed): Dr. Mounir ZAHRAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the
Arab Republic of Egypt

GE.94-62227 (E)

V. DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

36. The Ministers reviewed the developments in Disarmament and International Security since the Jakarta Summit, and noted the continuation of positive developments in this field. They reaffirmed the position adopted by the Movement in the Final Document of the Summit on these issues and reiterated their belief that general and complete disarmament under effective international control remains an ultimate objective to be sought and that a comprehensive, non-discriminatory and balanced approach towards international security should be adopted. They agreed that the rational option is to seek security for all through total nuclear disarmament, elimination of all weapons of mass destruction and through balanced and progressive reductions of conventional armaments at the global and regional levels.

37. The Ministers reaffirmed the utmost priority they accorded to nuclear disarmament and achieving a Nuclear Weapon Free World because of the dangers caused by such weapons and the ominous threats they posed to the very existence of mankind. Towards that objective, they urged the Conference on Disarmament to negotiate, as a matter of priority, an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances and undertake negotiations for the complete elimination of all nuclear weapons within a time bound framework. They stressed the need to urgently set a target date for the elimination of all nuclear weapons.

38. The Ministers called on all States and urged the Conference on Disarmament in particular to successfully conclude a universal, internationally and effectively verifiable comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, without any provision for exceptions, as a matter of the highest priority. Pending the conclusion of such a Treaty, the nuclear weapon States should suspend all nuclear test explosions.

39. The Ministers noted that a Special meeting of the States parties to the Partial-Test-Ban Treaty was held on 10 August 1993. They welcomed the continuing efforts of the President of the PTBT Amendment Conference to ensure a complementary relationship between that forum and the Conference on Disarmament in the achievement of a multilateral comprehensive test-ban agreement.

40. The Ministers considered that a Treaty banning the production and stockpiling of fissile material for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices would be a significant contribution to nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation provided that such a treaty is non-discriminatory, effectively verifiable and universally applicable, thus constituting a part of the comprehensive efforts to ban nuclear weapons and lead to their destruction.

41. The Ministers reiterated that security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons could contribute positive to addressing some of the dangers inherent in the presence of nuclear weapons. They reaffirmed the position of the Jakarta Summit on the matter, and called upon the Conference on Disarmament to reach an urgent agreement on an international legally binding convention in this regard. They also considered that the adoption of a Security Council resolution providing

effective, unconditional and comprehensive security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons could positively contribute to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons and could also be a step towards achieving nuclear disarmament.

42. The Ministers considered the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones a necessary first step towards attaining the objective of the elimination of weapons of mass destruction. In this context they welcomed the various initiatives for the establishment of such zones. They particularly welcomed the adoption by consensus of General Assembly Resolution 48/71 of 16 December 1993 on the Establishment of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in the Middle East, a concept initially proposed by Iran and Egypt. They called upon all parties concerned to take urgent and practical steps towards the establishment of such a zone and, pending its establishment, called upon Israel to renounce possession of nuclear weapons, to accede to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and to place all its nuclear facilities under full-scope IAEA safeguards.

43. The Ministers welcomed the progress made towards drawing up a draft treaty or convention on a Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone in Africa and expressed the hope that the draft Treaty would be finalized and submitted to the General Assembly of the United Nations as early as possible.

44. The Ministers considered the question of the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in other parts of the world and agreed that the views of the States of the regions concerned should be ascertained in conformity with provisions of the Final Document of SSOD-I.

45. The Ministers reviewed with satisfaction the ongoing consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco).

46. The Ministers welcomed the declaration by Mongolia of its territory as a nuclear-weapon-free zone in 1992 as a commendable contribution to regional stability and confidence-building.

47. The Ministers considered the question of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems. They recommended the adoption of effective measures in order to prohibit the development, production, deployment and use of weapons of mass destruction.

48. The Ministers paid tribute to the initiative launched by H.E. President Mohammed Hosni Mubarak of Egypt on the establishment of a Zone Free from Weapons of Mass Destruction in the Middle East and called for its realization. In this respect, the elimination of nuclear weapons from the region should be conducive to the establishment of the Zone Free from Weapons of Mass Destruction.

49. The Ministers noted that accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons had increased in recent years and that the States parties to the treaty would hold a Review/Extension Conference in 1995, also noted with satisfaction that a member of the Movement would chair the Conference as

called for by the Jakarta Declaration. The Ministers called for a fresh appraisal of the fulfilment of the obligations of the nuclear-weapon States under Article VI of the Treaty and expressed the hope that any pending issues relevant to the Treaty shall be overcome, including the provision of credible security assurances and adequate technical assistance to all non-nuclear-weapon States, to ensure the availability of nuclear materials, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes on a non-discriminatory, predictable and long-term basis. They called for States parties to the Treaty in the Movement to convene a senior officials meeting to coordinate their positions in preparation for the 1995 Conference.

50. The Ministers took note of the resolve of the Non-Aligned countries signatories to CWC to participate actively in the Preparatory Commission in the Hague, and to form a group to coordinate their positions. They called upon all developed countries to adopt measures to promote the transfer of technology, materials and equipment for peaceful purposes in the chemical field and to remove all existing unilateral, discriminatory ad hoc restrictions.

51. The Ministers, reaffirming that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should be pursued simultaneously, were convinced that endeavours by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the special characteristics of each region, and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armament for all participating States, would enhance the security of all States.

52. The Ministers felt that the question of the accumulation of conventional weapons beyond the legitimate self-defence requirements of States, should be sufficiently addressed, taking into account the special characteristics of each region.

53. The Ministers expressed their objection to the continued functioning of ad hoc export control groups on the pretext of the non-proliferation of armaments, since they could impede the economic and social development of developing countries. They reiterated the need for multilaterally negotiated, universal, comprehensive and non-discriminatory disarmament agreements to address proliferation problems.

54. The Ministers noted that there had been fundamental changes in the political landscape over the last decade. They underscored that these changes should motivate the members of the movement to ensure the fact that international security provides equal rights and responsibilities for all States. They emphasized the fact that international security cannot continue to be governed by outdated concepts and doctrines that dominated the bipolar world for many years and the fact that it should take non-military aspects into account. In this regard, they expressed the view that regional security can best be secured through the development of common interests and collective measures in a manner consistent with the principles of the United Nations Charter.

55. In reviewing these developments, the Ministers felt that the time was opportune for the international community to undertake a comprehensive

assessment of progress towards global disarmament. To this end, they called for a Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on Disarmament to be convened at an appropriate time. In this respect a meeting of the Non-Aligned Countries would be held to coordinate positions on this important issue.

56. The Ministers decided to retable and put to the vote the resolution seeking an advisory opinion from the ICJ on the legality of the use and threat of use of nuclear weapons during the forty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly.

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